

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 01186 161636Z  
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 H-01 /028 W  
-----161743Z 065635 /46

R 161115Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1447

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 1186

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, AF, US  
SUBJECT: PROPOSED CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT DAOUD

REF: NEW DELHI 2243, RPTD KABUL AS STATE 34496

1. THE COMMENTS TO SENATOR PERCY OF PRESIDENT DAOUD'S BROTHER AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISOR, MOHAMMAD NAIM, REPORTED PARA 5 REFTEL, CONCERNING THE AFGHAN FEELING THAT THERE IS "A NEED TO REAFFIRM THE RELATIONSHIP" WITH OUR NEW ADMINISTRATION, REFLECT, I AM CERTAIN, THE VIEWS OF PRESIDENT DAOUD HIMSELF. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT DAOUD'S UNCERTAINTIES REGARDING THE VIEWS OF OUR NEW ADMINISTRATION COME NOT ONLY FROM THE ABSENCE OF ANY SUBSTANTIVE CONTACT BETWEEN US SINCE JANUARY 20 BUT ALSO FROM CONVERSATIONS HE AND HIS TOP FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIALS MIGHT HAVE HAD WITH LEADERS OR DIPLOMATS OF OTHER NATIONS, INCLUDING THE SOVIET UNION.

2. IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT WYERE WILL BE ANY OPPORTUNITY SOON FOR HIGH-LEVEL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT AND OUR NEW ADMINISTRATION. I, THEREFORE, BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT THAT I CONVEY TO DAOUD IN THE NEAR FUTURE OUR VIEWS WITH RESPECT TO AFGHAN-U.S. RELATIONS AND THE SITUATION IN  
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AFGHANISTAN'S REGION OF THE WORLD. IT IS PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE THAT I DO THIS IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS INAUGURATION AS THE AFGHAN REPUBLIC'S FIRST ELECTED PRESIDENT.

3. SPECIFICALLY, I PROPOSE THAT I CALL ON DAOUD WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK OR TEN DAYS AND TELL HIM:

(A) IN ADDITION TO HIS WRITTEN MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS ON DAOUD'S BEING ELECTED THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE AFGHAN REPUBLIC, PRESIDENT CARTER HAS ASKED ME PERSONALLY TO CONVEY HIS CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD WISHES.

(B) I HAVE ALSO BEEN INSTRUCTED TO SAY THAT: (1) THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE INDEPENDENCE AND TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF AFGHANISTAN; (2) WE ALSO CONTINUE TO ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE STABILITY OF THIS REGION OF THE WORLD AND IN THAT CONNECTION HAVE BEEN HEARTENED BY AFGHANISTAN'S CONTINUING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE ITS RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN AND IRAN; (3) WITH RESPECT TO OUR BILATERAL ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN, WE INTEND TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AID UNDER THE TERMS OF OUR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT WHICH EMPHASIZES PROJECTS DESIGNED DIRECTLY TO HELP THE RURAL POOR. IN ADDITION WE HOPE TO INCREASE OUR SUPPORT TO IDA AND TO THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND EXPECT THEIR PROGRAMS IN AFGHANISTAN TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS. AS PRESIDENT DAOUD IS AWARE, THE PEACE CORPS, U.S. CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS AND PRIVATE AMERICAN INDUSTRY ARE ALSO AVAILABLE TO ASSIST AFGHANISTAN'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS; (4) THE ONLY BILATERAL PROBLEM WE FORESEE IN OUR RELATIONS CONCERNS THE PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING OF OPIUM AND ITS DERIVATIVE PRODUCTS. WE ARE WORKING WITH HIS GOVERNMENT.

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MENT ON THIS PROBLEM AND INTEND TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING UNITED NATIONS' ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN IN THIS AREA AND HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN WILL BE ABLE TO MOVE STEADILY IN THE DIRECTION OF THE ERADICATION OF OPIUM GROWING IN AFGHANISTAN.

(C) I WOULD CONCLUDE BY ASKING PRESIDENT DAOUD IF HE HAS ANY THOUGHTS HE WOULD LIKE ME TO CONVEY BACK TO PRESIDENT CARTER AND SECRETARY VANCE.

4. PLEASE INSTRUCT.  
ELIOT

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, OREP, AF, US, (PERCY, CHARLES H), (DAOUD, MOHAMMAD), (NAIM, MOHAMMAD)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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